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# Barlow Family Papers, 1927-1977 (MSS 259)

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Western Kentucky University  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

**MSS 259     BARLOW Family Papers, 1927-1977**

1 ½ boxes. 15 folders. 422 items. 1927-1977. Originals.

2009.4.46

***BIOGRAPHY***

James Edward Barlow was born in Georgetown, Kentucky in 1910. His parents were Dr. Edward Calistis Barlow (1875-1958), an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, and Lily (Robertson) Barlow (1880-1954). He graduated from the University of Kentucky with an engineering degree. His particular interest was electrical engineering and he held various jobs in that field throughout his career. During World War II he worked for Western Electric in New Jersey as an inspector for radios that were to be installed in U.S. bombers. He had an avid interest in photography, often teaching classes and giving lectures and demonstrations. He also developed an early love for music, playing both the clarinet and the organ. All three Barlow family members were active in the Methodist Church. James Edward Barlow died in North Carolina in 2008 and is buried in the Georgetown Cemetery, as are his parents.

***COLLECTION NOTES***

This collection consists primarily of letters written to James Edward Barlow from 1927 to 1977. During this time he lived and worked in Kentucky, New Jersey and North Carolina. The letters are from friends and family members inquiring about his career, his health, and his interests in photography, radio, and music. Some of the letters from his friends include comments on employment, drawings of circuitry, and details about experiments with new photographic techniques. The collection also includes his parents' correspondence. Those letters reveal daily lives that are chiefly devoted to their son's well-being and to family and church activities.

Metal fasteners were removed and replaced with coated paper clips. All materials were placed in acid-free folders and boxes. Approximately 25 photographs taken by Barlow were transferred to the Kentucky Library. Only envelopes of display or historical value were kept with the letters.

***SHELF LIST***

<b>BOX 1</b>	<b>BARLOW Family Papers</b>	<b>1927-1957</b>	<b>243 items</b>
Folder 1	Inventory		1 item
Folder 2	Edward Calistis Barlow and Lily Barlow - Correspondence	1937-1952	51 items
Folder 3	Edward Calistis Barlow and Lily Barlow - Correspondence	1953-1954	29 items
Folder 4	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1927-1934	23 items
Folder 5	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1935	23 items
Folder 6	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1936	32 items
Folder 7	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1937	38 items
Folder 8	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1938	26 items
Folder 9	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1939-1940	20 items
 <b>BOX 2</b>	 <b>BARLOW Family Papers</b>	 <b>1941-1977</b>	 <b>179 items</b>
Folder 1	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1941	40 items
Folder 2	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1942-1945	41 items
Folder 3	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1946-47	52 items
Folder 4	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	1950-1977	24 items
Folder 5	Barlow, J. Edward – Letters to	n.d.	11 items
Folder 6	Miscellaneous – Correspondence, photo, news clippings	1932-1954	11 items

## **CATALOG CARD**

MSS BARLOW Family Papers 1927-1977  
259

Chiefly letters sent to James Edward Barlow, who was employed in the electrical engineering field. The letters are generally from friends inquiring about his work, health, and interests in electronics and photography. Also includes correspondence of his parents, Edward Calistis Barlow and Lily (Robertson) Barlow of Georgetown, Kentucky.

1 ½ boxes. 15 folders. 422 items. Originals.  
2009.4.46 K/33

## **SUBJECT ANALYTICS**

African American physicians – North Carolina – Relating to, 1954 B1 F3  
Barlow, Edward Calistis, 1875-1958 – Correspondence B1 F2-9, B2 F1-4  
Barlow, James Edward, 1910-2008 – Letters to B1 F4-9, B2  
Barlow, James Edward, 1910-2008 – Photo B2 F6  
Barlow, Lily (Robertson), 1880-1954 – Correspondence B1 F2-9, B2 F1-5  
Bohon, Lida – Letters from B1 F5-6  
Georgetown – Physicians B1 F2-9, B2 F1-4  
Georgetown – Social life and customs  
Ken-Rad – Owensboro – Relating to B1 F5-6, 8-9, B2 F2, 5  
McGlumphy, Bill – Letters from B1 F6, B2 F1-2  
Myers, Mabel – Letters from B1 F2-3  
North Carolina – African American physicians – Relating to, 1954  
Ohio River – Floods, 1937 – Comments about B1 F7  
Owensboro – Radio stations – WOMI B1 F8, B2 F5  
Photography – Relating to B1 F4, 7-8, B2 F1-3  
Physicians – Georgetown B1 F2-9, B2 F1-4  
Radar – World War II, 1939-1945 – Relating to B2 F2  
Radio – Relating to B1 F4-6, B2 F1-2  
Radio stations – Owensboro – WOMI B1 F8  
Rationing – Nylons – World War II, 1939-1945 B1 F2  
Rationing – Sugar – World War II, 1939-1945 B2 F2  
Social life and customs – Georgetown  
Travel and description – Williamstown B2 F2  
Williams, Oakie – Letters from B1 F2-3  
Williamstown – Travel and description, 1944 B2 F2  
World War II, 1939-1945 – Radar – Relating to B2 F2  
World War II, 1939-1945 – Rationing – Nylons B1 F2  
World War II, 1939-1945 – Rationing – Sugar B2 F2

## ***CHRONOLOGICAL CARDS***

1927-1950

1951-1962

1977

sl -1; me - 1; sa - 28; chrono - 3

Lile/Jeffrey 08/14/2009